

Oregon House Bill 4013.

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Good Afternoon. Teresa McGuire. Resident of Senator Gelser's district as of Oct 2017. Prior to that spent 31 years in SW Portland which was Senator Devlin's district. I have taught at both the middle and high school levels prior to the arrival of our second child. A steady volunteer at my childrens' schools: Stephenson Elementary, Jackson Middle and Wilson High. Made the mistake of making an appointment with the principal and discussing a large list of parental concerns (trying to representative of more than just myself) the year the oldest entered Jackson MS. Named Volunteer of the year at Jackson a few years later.

Created a group in 2012 called Restore Education Before Buildings in response to serious issues within Portland Public Schools. Actions taken by our group included a couple of public information requests to PPS concerning the hiring and contracts issued to two FORMER school board members. In addition, asked for alternative education contract information as contracts were issued to two current school board members who served at this time.

HB 4013 What concern or issue is being remedied?

This bill appears to be about the manner in which appointments are made to the Oregon State Board of Education. The Governor appoints seven voting members with two non voting members appointed, one each, by the State Treasurer and the Secretary of State.

Nothing changes as to the Governor's appointments but still I went to the Board of Education site to try to gain an idea of who the Governor has appointed and what qualifications they bring to the Board. Perused the mission statement, priority of values and of course the short biographies provided by each. Three of these members have long running ties to Eugene School District. Two of these same three now pursue paid consulting work that may or may not be in conflict with their service on the OSBE. Of these seven only one person mentions having children. I don't believe this should be a requirement but I find it worrisome that we are dealing with almost 600,000 Oregon K-12 public school students in Oregon and only one member mentions having a child. Even Treasurer Read makes mention of his children on the OSBE site as does SOS Richardson who has a large brood. I have to question if these appointees represent the trees not the forest.

This bill does however mandate changes to the NON-Voting members. Ordering that the State Treasurer (D) and the Secretary of State, Dennis Richardson (R) MUST designate a full time employee in their office to these respective board positions. Again these are non voting positions. We the voters have elected each of these three positions, the Governor, the Secretary of State and the State Treasurer for the particular aspects of their jobs and competencies as a public official. I see nothing wrong or unlawful in appointing some one who stands up for the forest of parents.

The argument has been made about the "intent of the law" . If that were the case I think we need to go back to 2011 and look at the "intent of the law" to create a special shortened session limited to 35 days for those "emergencies". I remember voting NO. Emergencies should not take 35 days to resolve.

Currently SOS Dennis Richardson (R) has appointed Kim Sordyl (D) a parent volunteer to this position. Kim is a former litigator and clerk to the Michigan Supreme Court. Moving to Portland in 2002, Kim worked as an employment attorney. Kim is currently retired at home with her young children who attend Portland Public Schools. Kim asks tough questions and has a wealth of legal knowledge. In addition to knowledge that entails the issues/problems that apply to each and every school district in our state.

Oregon has 197 school districts so it follows to reason about the same number of superintendents. Oregon has around 30,000 school teachers, almost 600,000 students and assuming somewhere over 1,000,000 parents.

I have to wonder at the reason that this bill was proposed and the fact that it passed out of the House on strictly partisan lines. Is this a rebuke aimed at SOS Richardson? Is this sharp disapproval and alarm aimed at Kim Sordyl, who appears to be the only member with young children at home? Kim being the one in a MILLION member with K-12 aged kids. Yet we need three former school superintendents out of the 200

Kim Sordyl and reporter Beth Slovic are currently being sued by Portland Public Schools over a public information request asking for clarification and acknowledgment about staff on paid administrative leaves. Something that are group Restore Education Before Buildings attempted QUIETLY to ascertain. Personally I find this disheartening to have a bill written to stop someone serving who is extremely qualified and a willing volunteer to our state and to all our schools. Please do your due diligence and let this die in committee.

I came here today as a first time grandparent because I am sickened and disheartened with the leaders of our state for the lack of bipartisan solutions. My Granddaughter who is seven weeks today deserves better. For myself as a child growing up in Stayton, my Mom would bring us here to the capitol on several occasions over the years, to admire the rotunda and climb the Golden Pioneer. In 5th or 6th grade, when the Legislature met every other year, our class was brought here, to view the action from the balcony. A place of a solemn atmosphere and bipartisan works to solve whatever issues faced the state at the time. Not sure that ever existed. I certainly see little of it over the past few years. I would ask that every one o